CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(dollars in millions except per share amounts)

	March 31, 2001	December 31, 2000
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 5,845	$ 5,263
Investments:		
Securities with fixed maturities	30,153	32,567
Equity securities	30,436	37,619
Other	1,571	1,637
Receivables	11,553	11,764
Inventories	2,261	1,275
Investments in MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company	1,699	1,719
Assets of finance and financial products businesses	31,336	16,829
Property, plant and equipment	4,543	2,699
Goodwill of acquired businesses	21,389	18,875
Other assets	5,904	5,545
	$146,690	$135,792
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Losses and loss adjustment expenses	$ 33,397	$ 33,022
Unearned premiums	4,561	3,885
Accounts payable, accruals and other liabilities	9,417	8,374
Income taxes, principally deferred	7,278	10,125
Borrowings under investment agreements and other debt	4,056	2,663
Liabilities of finance and financial products businesses	28,229	14,730
	86,938	72,799
Minority shareholders' interests	1,362	1,269
Shareholders' equity:		
Common Stock:*		
Class A Common Stock, $5 par value and Class B Common Stock, $0.1667 par value	8	8
Capital in excess of par value	25,545	25,524
Accumulated other comprehensive income	13,582	17,543
Retained earnings	19,255	18,649
Total shareholders' equity	58,390	61,724
	$146,690	$135,792

* *Class B Common Stock has economic rights equal to one-thirtieth (1/30) of the economic rights of Class A Common Stock. Accordingly, on an equivalent Class A Common Stock basis, there are 1,526,904 shares outstanding at March 31, 2001 versus 1,526,230 shares outstanding at December 31, 2000.*

See accompanying Notes to Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS
(dollars in millions except per share amounts)

	First Quarter 2001	First Quarter 2000
Revenues:		
Insurance premiums earned	$3,726	$3,220
Sales and service revenues	3,271	1,602
Interest, dividend and other investment income	678	629
Income from MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company	47	5
Income from finance and financial products businesses	171	282
Realized investment gain	242	736
	8,135	6,474
Cost and expenses:		
Insurance losses and loss adjustment expenses	3,025	2,677
Insurance underwriting expenses	920	871
Cost of products and services sold	2,301	1,088
Selling, general and administrative expenses	730	378
Goodwill amortization	142	122
Interest expense	60	33
	7,178	5,169
Earnings before income taxes and minority interest	957	1,305
Income taxes	339	464
Minority interest	12	34
Net earnings	$ 606	$ 807
Average common shares outstanding *	1,526,540	1,520,680
Net earnings per common share *	$ 397	$ 531

* *Average shares outstanding include average Class A Common shares and average Class B Common shares determined on an equivalent Class A Common Stock basis. Net earnings per share shown above represents net earnings per equivalent Class A Common share. Net earnings per Class B Common share is equal to one-thirtieth (1/30) of such amount.*

See accompanying Notes to Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(dollars in millions)

	First Quarter 2001	First Quarter 2000
Net cash flows from operating activities	$ 733	$ 276
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of investments	(906)	(6,645)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments	4,911	5,608
Loans and investments originated in finance businesses	(910)	(249)
Principal collection on loans and investments originated in finance businesses	99	360
Acquisitions of businesses, net of cash acquired	(3,736)	(381)
Other	(197)	(66)
Net cash flows from investing activities	(739)	(1,373)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from borrowings of finance businesses	166	99
Proceeds from other borrowings	162	177
Repayments of borrowings of finance businesses	(1)	(28)
Repayments of other borrowings	(167)	(267)
Change in short term borrowings of finance businesses	650	—
Changes in other short term borrowings	46	33
Other	(14)	49
Net cash flows from financing activities	842	63
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	836	(1,034)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	5,604	4,458
Cash and cash equivalents at end of first quarter *	$6,440	$3,424
Supplemental cash flow information:		
Cash paid during the period for:		
Income taxes	$ 461	$ 13
Interest of finance and financial products businesses	137	213
Other interest	71	46
Non-cash investing activity:		
Liabilities assumed in connection with acquisitions of businesses	2,249	162
Contingent value of Exchange Notes recognized in earnings	24	57
Value of equity securities used to redeem Exchange Notes	45	145

	2001	2000
** Cash and cash equivalents are comprised of the following:*		
Beginning of year —		
Finance and financial products businesses	*$ 341*	*$ 623*
Other	*5,263*	*3,835*
	$5,604	*$4,458*
End of first quarter —		
Finance and financial products businesses	*$ 595*	*$ 533*
Other	*5,845*	*2,891*
	$6,440	*$3,424*

See accompanying Notes to Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

Note 1. General

The accompanying unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of Berkshire consolidated with the accounts of all its subsidiaries. Reference is made to Berkshire's most recently issued Annual Report that included information necessary or useful to understanding of Berkshire's businesses and financial statement presentations. In particular, Berkshire's significant accounting policies and practices were presented as Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in that Report.

Financial information in this Report reflects any adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) that are, in the opinion of management, necessary to a fair statement of results for the interim periods in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP").

For a number of reasons, Berkshire's results for interim periods are not normally indicative of results to be expected for the year. The timing and magnitude of catastrophe losses incurred by insurance subsidiaries and the estimation error inherent to the process of determining liabilities for unpaid losses of insurance subsidiaries can be relatively more significant to results of interim periods than to results for a full year. Realized investment gains/losses are recorded when investments are sold, other-than-temporarily impaired or in certain situations, as required by GAAP, when investments are marked-to-market with the corresponding gain or loss included in earnings. Variations in amount and timing of realized investment gains/losses can cause significant variations in periodic net earnings.

Note 2. Significant business acquisitions

During 2001, Berkshire consummated two significant business acquisitions. In addition, Berkshire completed six significant acquisitions in 2000. Information concerning seven of these acquisitions follows. Information concerning the other acquisition is contained in Note 3 (Investment in MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company).

Shaw Industries, Inc. ("Shaw")
On January 8, 2001, Berkshire acquired approximately 87.3% of the common stock of Shaw for $19 per share. An investment group consisting of Robert E. Shaw, Chairman and CEO of Shaw, Julian D. Saul, President of Shaw, certain family members and related family interests of Messrs. Shaw and Saul, and certain other directors and members of management acquired the remaining 12.7% of Shaw.

Shaw is the world's largest manufacturer of tufted broadloom carpet and rugs for residential and commercial applications throughout the United States and exports to most markets worldwide. Shaw markets its residential and commercial products under a variety of brand names.

Johns Manville Corporation ("Johns Manville")
On February 27, 2001, Berkshire acquired Johns Manville. Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, Berkshire purchased all of the outstanding shares of Johns Manville common stock for $13 per share.

Johns Manville is a leading manufacturer of insulation and building products. Johns Manville manufactures and markets products for building and equipment insulation, commercial and industrial roofing systems, high-efficiency filtration media, and fibers and non-woven mats used as reinforcements in building and industrial applications. Johns Manville operates manufacturing facilities in North America, Europe and China.

Berkshire paid approximately $3,830 million in cash to shareholders of Shaw and Johns Manville in connection with the acquisitions.

CORT Business Services Corporation ("CORT")
Effective February 18, 2000, Wesco Financial Corporation, an indirect 80.1% owned subsidiary of Berkshire, acquired CORT. CORT is a leading national provider of rental furniture, accessories and related services in the "rent-to-rent" segment of the furniture industry.

Note 2. Significant business acquisitions (Continued)

Ben Bridge Jeweler ("Ben Bridge")

Effective July 3, 2000, Berkshire acquired Ben Bridge. Ben Bridge is the leading operator of upscale jewelry stores based in major shopping malls in the Western United States.

Justin Industries, Inc. ("Justin")

Effective August 1, 2000, Berkshire acquired Justin. Principal businesses of Justin include: Acme Building Brands, a leading manufacturer and producer of face brick, concrete masonry products and ceramic and marble floor and wall tile and Justin Brands, a leading manufacturer of Western footwear under a number of brand names.

U.S. Investment Corporation ("USIC")

Effective August 8, 2000, Berkshire acquired USIC. USIC is the parent of the United States Liability Insurance Group, one of the premier U.S. writers of specialty insurance.

Benjamin Moore & Co. ("Benjamin Moore")

Effective December 18, 2000, Berkshire acquired Benjamin Moore. Benjamin Moore is a formulator, manufacturer and retailer of a broad range of architectural and industrial coatings, available principally in the United States and Canada.

Aggregate consideration paid for the five business acquisitions consummated in 2000 totaled $2,370 million, consisting of $2,146 million in cash and the remainder in Berkshire Class A and Class B common stock.

The results of operations for each of these entities are included in Berkshire's consolidated results of operations from the effective date of each merger. The following table sets forth certain unaudited consolidated earnings data for the first quarter of 2000, as if each of the seven acquisitions discussed above were consummated on the same terms at the beginning of 2000. Pro forma results for the first quarter 2001 were not materially different from reported results. Dollars are in millions except per share amount.

	2000
Total revenues	$8,313
Net earnings	823
Earnings per equivalent Class A Common Share	540

Note 3. Investments in MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company

On October 24, 1999, Berkshire entered into an agreement along with Walter Scott, Jr. and David L. Sokol, to acquire MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company ("MidAmerican"). The transaction closed on March 14, 2000. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, Berkshire invested approximately $1.24 billion in common stock and a non-dividend paying convertible preferred stock of a newly formed entity that merged with and into MidAmerican, with MidAmerican continuing as the surviving corporation. Such investment gives Berkshire about a 9.7% voting interest and a 76% economic interest in MidAmerican on a fully-diluted basis. Berkshire subsidiaries also acquired approximately $455 million of an 11% non-transferable trust preferred security. Under certain conditions, for a period of up to seven years subsequent to the closing, Berkshire may be required to purchase up to $345 million of additional trust preferred securities. Mr. Scott, a member of Berkshire's Board of Directors, controls approximately 86% of the voting interest in MidAmerican. Mr. Sokol is the CEO of MidAmerican.

Through its retail utility subsidiaries, MidAmerican Energy in the U.S. and Northern Electric in the U.K., MidAmerican provides electric service to approximately 1.8 million customers and natural gas service to 1.1 million customers worldwide. MidAmerican owns interests in over 10,000 net megawatts of diversified power generation facilities in operation, construction and development.

Berkshire's aggregate investments in MidAmerican are included in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as Investments in MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company. Berkshire is accounting for the common and non-dividend paying convertible preferred stock pursuant to the equity method. The carrying value of these equity method investments totaled $1,244 million at March 31, 2001 and $1,264 million at December 31, 2000.

The Consolidated Statements of Earnings reflect, as Income from MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company, Berkshire's proportionate share of MidAmerican's net income with respect to the investments accounted for pursuant to the equity method, as well as interest earned on the 11% trust preferred security. Income derived from equity method investments totaled $35 million for the first quarter 2001 and $3 million for the period ending March 31, 2000.

Note 4. Investments in securities with fixed maturities

Data with respect to investments in securities with fixed maturities (other than securities with fixed maturities held by finance and financial products businesses — See Note 9) are shown in the tabulation below (in millions).

	March 31, 2001	December 31, 2000
Amortized cost	$29,509	$32,420
Gross unrealized gains	727	512
Gross unrealized losses	(83)	(365)
Estimated fair value	$30,153	$32,567

Note 5. Investments in equity securities

Data with respect to investments in equity securities are shown in the tabulation below (in millions).

	March 31, 2001	December 31, 2000
Total cost	$ 9,805	$10,402
Gross unrealized gains	20,770	27,294
Gross unrealized losses	(139)	(77)
Total fair value	$30,436	$37,619
Fair value:		
American Express Company	$ 6,262	$ 8,329
The Coca-Cola Company	9,032	12,188
The Gillette Company	2,992	3,468
Wells Fargo & Company	2,724	3,067
Other equity securities	9,426	10,567
Total	$30,436	$37,619

Note 6. Deferred income tax liabilities

The tax effects of significant items comprising Berkshire's net deferred tax liabilities as of March 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000 are as follows (in millions).

	March 31, 2001	December 31, 2000
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Relating to unrealized appreciation of investments	$ 7,450	$ 9,571
Deferred charges reinsurance assumed	887	916
Investments	431	441
Other	918	717
	9,686	11,645
Deferred tax assets:		
Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses	(997)	(1,061)
Unearned premiums	(253)	(227)
Other	(1,511)	(754)
	(2,761)	(2,042)
Net deferred tax liability	$ 6,925	$ 9,603

Note 7. Common stock

The following table summarizes Berkshire's common stock activity during the first quarter of 2001.

	Class A Common Stock (1,650,000 shares authorized) Issued and Outstanding	Class B Common Stock (55,000,000 shares authorized) Issued and Outstanding
Balance at December 31, 2000	1,343,904	5,469,786
Conversions of Class A Common Stock to Class B Common Stock and other	(1,269)	58,287
Balance at March 31, 2001	1,342,635	5,528,073

Notes To Interim Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Note 7. Common stock (Continued)

Each share of Class A Common Stock is convertible, at the option of the holder, into thirty shares of Class B Common Stock. Class B Common Stock is not convertible into Class A Common Stock. Class B Common Stock has economic rights equal to one-thirtieth (1/30) of the economic rights of Class A Common Stock. Accordingly, on an equivalent Class A Common Stock basis, there are 1,526,904 shares outstanding at March 31, 2001 and 1,526,230 shares outstanding at December 31, 2000.

Each Class A Common share is entitled to one vote per share. Each Class B Common share possesses the voting rights of one-two-hundredth (1/200) of the voting rights of a Class A share. Class A and Class B Common shares vote together as a single class.

Note 8. Comprehensive income

Berkshire's comprehensive income for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000 is shown in the table below (in millions). Other comprehensive income consists of unrealized gains and losses on investments and foreign currency translation adjustments associated with foreign-based business operations.

	2001	2000
Net earnings	$ 606	$ 807
Other comprehensive income:		
Decrease in unrealized appreciation of investments	(6,048)	(3,536)
Applicable income taxes and minority interests	2,152	1,252
Other, principally foreign currency translation losses	(78)	(25)
Applicable income taxes and minority interests	13	20
	(3,961)	(2,289)
Comprehensive income	$(3,355)	$(1,482)

Note 9. Finance and financial products businesses

Assets and liabilities of Berkshire's finance and financial products businesses are summarized below (in millions).

	March 31, 2001	December 31, 2000
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 595	$ 341
Investments in securities with fixed maturities:		
Held-to-maturity, at cost	1,699	1,664
Trading, at fair value	17,586	5,244
Available-for-sale, at fair value	735	880
Trading account assets	5,915	5,429
Loans and other receivables	1,839	1,186
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	586	680
Other	2,381	1,405
	$31,336	$16,829
Liabilities		
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	$14,121	$ 3,386
Securities sold but not yet purchased	1,053	715
Trading account liabilities	5,218	4,974
Notes payable and other borrowings	2,872	2,116
Annuity reserves and policyholder liabilities	875	868
Other	4,090	2,671
	$28,229	$14,730

Note 10. Business Segment Data

A disaggregation of Berkshire's consolidated data for the first quarter of each of the two most recent years is as follows. Amounts are in millions.

	Revenues	
	2001	2000
Operating Businesses:		
Insurance group:		
Premiums earned:		
GEICO	$1,462	$1,308
General Re	1,998	1,680
Berkshire Hathaway Reinsurance Group	160	164
Berkshire Hathaway Direct Insurance Group	106	68
Interest, dividend and other investment income	691	654
Total insurance group	4,417	3,874
Shaw Industries	967	—
Building products **	466	—
Flight services	647	508
Retail	437	393
Scott Fetzer Companies	246	263
Other	682	720
	7,862	5,758
Reconciliation of segments to consolidated amount:		
Realized investment gain	242	736
Other revenues	47	16
Purchase-accounting adjustments	(16)	(36)
	$8,135	$6,474

	Operating profit before taxes	
Operating Businesses:	2001	2000
Insurance group operating profit:		
Underwriting profit(loss):		
GEICO	$ (21)	$ (86)
General Re	(126)	(273)
Berkshire Hathaway Reinsurance Group	(78)	32
Berkshire Hathaway Direct Insurance Group	6	(1)
Interest, dividend and other investment income	686	651
Total insurance group operating profit	467	323
Shaw Industries	51	—
Building products **	52	—
Flight services	49	58
Retail	26	29
Scott Fetzer Companies	30	35
Other	206	294
	881	739
Reconciliation of segments to consolidated amount:		
Realized investment gain	213	736
Interest expense *	(22)	(24)
Corporate and other	43	12
Goodwill amortization and other purchase-accounting adjustments	(158)	(158)
	$ 957	$1,305

* *Amounts of interest expense represent interest on borrowings under investment agreements and other debt exclusive of that of finance businesses and interest allocated to certain businesses.*

** *Building products businesses include Johns Manville, Benjamin Moore and Acme Building Brands. See Note 2.*

Notes To Interim Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Note 11. Commitments

On February 26, 2001, Berkshire and Leucadia National Corporation, through a jointly owned entity, entered into a commitment letter with FINOVA Group and its subsidiary FINOVA Capital Corporation to loan $6 billion to FINOVA Capital on a senior secured basis. The loan commitment was made in connection with a proposed restructuring of all of FINOVA Capital's outstanding bank debt and publicly traded debt securities and is subject to bankruptcy court approval and various other conditions.

The $6 billion term loan will be made by Berkadia LLC, an entity formed for this purpose and owned jointly by BH Finance, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Berkshire and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Leucadia. Berkadia has received a $60 million commitment fee and, in addition to certain other fees, will receive an additional $60 million fee upon funding of the loan. Berkadia's commitment for the loan has been guaranteed by Berkshire and Leucadia and expires on August 31, 2001, or earlier, if certain conditions are not satisfied. Berkadia expects to finance its funding commitment and Berkshire will provide Berkadia's lenders with a 90% primary guarantee of such financing, with Leucadia providing a 10% primary guarantee and Berkshire providing a secondary guarantee of Leucadia's guarantee.

The term loan will be secured by all assets of FINOVA Capital and will bear interest at an annual rate equal to the greater of 9% or LIBOR plus 3%. In addition, an annual facility fee will be payable at the rate of 25 basis points on the outstanding principal amount. After payment of accrued interest on the term loan and operating and other corporate expenses, payment of accrued interest on the restructured FINOVA Group senior notes and quarterly repurchases of up to $75 million, at a price not to exceed par plus accrued interest, of the restructured FINOVA Group senior notes (up to a maximum of $1.5 billion), 100% of excess cash flow and net proceeds from asset sales will be used to make mandatory prepayments of principal on the term loan without premium. Any remaining principal and accrued and unpaid interest on the term loan will be due at maturity (five years from the closing).

Management's Discussion

Results of Operations

Net earnings for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000 are disaggregated in the table that follows. Amounts are after deducting minority interests and income taxes. Dollar amounts are in millions.

	2001	2000
Insurance segments – underwriting	$(141)	$(212)
Insurance segments – investment income	475	452
Non-insurance businesses	255	264
Interest expense	(16)	(14)
Goodwill amortization and other purchase-accounting adjustments	(150)	(142)
Other	39	6
Earnings before realized investment gain	462	354
Realized investment gain	144	453
Net earnings	$ 606	$ 807

Insurance Segments — Underwriting

A summary follows of underwriting results from Berkshire's insurance segments for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000. Dollar amounts are in millions.

	2001	2000
Underwriting gain (loss) attributable to:		
GEICO	$ (21)	$ (86)
General Re	(126)	(273)
Berkshire Hathaway Reinsurance Group	(78)	32
Berkshire Hathaway Direct Insurance Group	6	(1)
Pre-tax underwriting loss	(219)	(328)
Income taxes and minority interest	(78)	(116)
Net underwriting loss	$(141)	$(212)

Berkshire engages in both primary insurance and reinsurance of property and casualty risks. Through General Re, Berkshire also reinsures life and health risks. In primary insurance activities, Berkshire subsidiaries assume defined portions of the risks of loss from persons or organizations that are directly subject to the risks. In reinsurance activities, Berkshire subsidiaries assume defined portions of similar or dissimilar risks that other insurers or reinsurers have subjected themselves to in their own insuring activities. Berkshire's principal insurance businesses are: (1) GEICO, the sixth largest auto insurer in the United States, (2) General Re, one of the four largest reinsurers in the world, (3) Berkshire Hathaway Reinsurance Group ("BHRG") and (4) Berkshire Hathaway Direct Insurance Group.

GEICO Corporation

GEICO Corporation through its affiliates ("GEICO") provides private passenger auto insurance to customers in 48 states and the District of Columbia. GEICO policies are marketed mainly through direct response methods, in which insureds apply directly to the company for insurance coverage over the telephone, through the mail or via the Internet. This is a significant element in GEICO's strategy to be a low cost insurer and, yet, provide high value to policyholders.

GEICO's pre-tax underwriting results for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000 are summarized in the table below. Dollar amounts are in millions.

	2001		2000	
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Premiums earned	$1,462	100.0	$1,308	100.0
Losses and loss expenses	1,236	84.5	1,131	86.5
Underwriting expenses	247	16.9	263	20.1
Total losses and expenses	1,483	101.4	1,394	106.6
Net underwriting loss	$ (21)		$ (86)	

***Insurance Segments - Underwriting* (Continued)**

GEICO Corporation (Continued)

Premiums earned in the first quarter of 2001 were $1,462 million, an increase of 11.8% from $1,308 million in 2000. The growth in premiums earned reflects a 3.2% increase in voluntary auto policies-in-force during the past year and increased rates. As noted in previous discussions, GEICO began implementing rate increases in many states and tightened underwriting standards in 2000 in response to higher than anticipated claim costs. While most of these underwriting actions have been completed, additional rate increases and initiatives will be taken, as considered necessary, to keep premium rates better aligned with costs. Generally, it takes six to twelve months for the full effect of a rate increase to be fully reflected in premiums earned.

Policies-in-force over the last twelve months increased 5.1% in the preferred-risk auto market and decreased 3.7% in the standard and nonstandard auto lines. Voluntary auto new business sales in the first quarter of 2001 decreased 41.9% compared to 2000 due to decreased advertising and a lower closure ratio. Policies-in-force at March 31, 2001 were approximately the same as at December 31, 2000 and little, if any, growth of total voluntary policies-in-force in the near term is expected.

Losses and loss adjustment expenses incurred increased 9.3% to $1,236 million in the first quarter of 2001 from $1,131 million in the first quarter of 2000. The loss ratio for property and casualty insurance, which measures the portion of premiums earned that is paid or reserved for losses and related claims handling expenses, was 84.5% in the first quarter of 2001 and 86.5% in 2000. The lower ratio reflects the effects of the rate increases implemented beginning in 2000 and lower catastrophe losses. Catastrophe losses were minimal in the first quarter of 2001, but added 1.3 points to the loss ratio in 2000.

Underwriting expenses in the first quarter of 2001 declined from the first quarter of 2000. Policy acquisition expenses were substantially unchanged in the first quarter of 2001 in comparison to the first quarter of 2000. However, the unit cost of acquiring new business has continued to increase in 2001 reflecting a lower closure ratio of new policies written to policies quoted. Other underwriting expenses for the first quarter of 2001 declined reflecting lower employee deferred compensation costs and no employee profit sharing expense in the first quarter of 2001.

General Re

General Re and its affiliates conduct a global reinsurance business with operations in the United States and 129 other countries around the world. General Re's principal reinsurance operations are: (1) North American property/casualty, (2) International property/casualty, and (3) Global life/health. The International property/casualty operations are conducted primarily through Germany-based Cologne Re and its subsidiaries. At March 31, 2001, General Re held an 88% economic ownership interest in Cologne Re.

The reinsurance industry continues to contend with difficult underwriting conditions, although improvements are occurring in certain markets. General Re's consolidated results for the first quarter of 2001 improved considerably over the same period in 2000. The improvement in the North American property/casualty operations, is primarily attributable to premium rate increases, other underwriting initiatives and comparatively modest levels of large property losses. The International property/casualty operations benefited from approximately $80 million in lower catastrophe and other large property losses as compared to the same period of 2000. Global life/health results for the first quarter of 2001 compared unfavorably against the reported results for first quarter 2000 primarily due to the U.S. Medicare supplement business and higher mortality experience. Absent large individual property or major catastrophe losses, General Re's underwriting results are expected to continue to improve throughout 2001. The underwriting results for each of General Re's business segments follow. Dollar amounts are in millions.

North American property/casualty

General Re's North American property/casualty pre-tax underwriting results for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000 are shown below. Dollar amounts are in millions.

	2001		2000	
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Premiums earned	$905	100.0	$669	100.0
Losses and loss expenses	688	76.0	570	85.2
Underwriting expenses	265	29.3	186	27.8
Total losses and expenses	953	105.3	756	113.0
Net underwriting loss	$(48)		$(87)	

***Insurance Segments - Underwriting* (Continued)**

North American property/casualty (continued)

North American property/casualty operations underwrite predominantly excess reinsurance across multiple lines of business. For the first three months of 2001, North American property/casualty earned premiums of $905 million increased 35.3% or $236 million over the first quarter of 2000. The growth in earned premiums is primarily the result of premium rate increases on existing business and growth in individual risk and national multi-line businesses. In addition, approximately $85 million of the increase related to premiums from large excess reinsurance agreements, which are normally expected to produce underwriting losses in exchange for large amounts of float.

North American property/casualty underwriting results improved significantly in the first quarter of 2001 as compared to the first quarter 2000. The loss ratio for the first three months of 2001 declined to 76.0% from 85.2% for the comparable 2000 period. The improved results in 2001 are primarily due to the effects of continued premium rate increases, other underwriting initiatives and low amounts of large individual property and catastrophe losses in the quarter. Losses arising from catastrophes (principally the Seattle earthquake) and other large individual property losses added 1.1 points to the loss ratio for the first three months of 2001, while such losses added 9.4 points to the loss ratio for the first quarter of 2000. The aforementioned large excess reinsurance agreements generated first quarter underwriting losses of $19 million in 2001 and $3 million in 2000.

International property/casualty

General Re's International property/casualty pre-tax underwriting results for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000 are shown below. Dollar amounts are in millions.

	2001		2000	
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Premiums earned	$588	100.0	$ 611	100.0
Losses and loss expenses	443	75.4	562	92.0
Underwriting expenses	190	32.3	215	35.2
Total losses and expenses	633	107.7	777	127.2
Net underwriting loss	$(45)		$(166)	

The International property/casualty operations write quota-share and excess reinsurance on risks around the world. In recent years, the largest international markets have been in Germany and Western Europe. First quarter 2001 International property/casualty earned premiums of $588 million declined $23 million or 3.8% from the same period in 2000. Adjusting for the effect of foreign exchange, earned premiums increased 7.1% in local currencies during the first quarter of 2001. Most of this growth was due to increased volume and participation in DP Mann's Syndicate 435 at Lloyd's of London. Cologne Re's premiums, when adjusted for currency fluctuations, were substantially unchanged as the effect of premium rate increases and new business offset the effects of the under-performing business that was not renewed.

Underwriting results for the International property/casualty segment for the first three months of 2001 while unsatisfactory, improved significantly over the same period in 2000. The loss ratio for the first three months of 2001 was 75.4%, compared to 92.0% reported for the first quarter of 2000. The decrease in the first quarter loss ratio was primarily attributable to significantly lower levels of catastrophe and other large losses as compared with the first quarter of 2000. Losses arising from catastrophic events and other large property losses added 1.2 points to the loss ratio for the first three months of 2001, compared to 14.7 points for the same period of 2000. In the first quarter of 2000, additional losses emerged from the late December 1999 European winter storms.

Global life/health

General Re's Global life/health pre-tax underwriting results for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000 are shown below. Dollar amounts are in millions.

	2001		2000	
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Premiums earned	$505	100.0	$400	100.0
Losses and loss expenses	426	84.4	320	80.0
Underwriting expenses	112	22.1	100	25.0
Total losses and expenses	538	106.5	420	105.0
Net underwriting loss	$(33)		$ (20)	

Management's Discussion (Continued)

Insurance Segments - Underwriting **(Continued)**

Global life/health (continued)

General Re's Global life/health affiliates reinsure such risks worldwide. For the first quarter of 2001, Global life/health earned premiums of $505 million grew 26.3% over the same period in 2000. Adjusting for the effect of foreign exchange, earned premiums increased 32.0% in local currencies during the first quarter of 2001. The growth in earned premiums was primarily due to expanding life reinsurance business in the U.S., Australia, Asia and Western Europe. Additionally, growth in the U.S. individual health segment offset decreases in the international health segment.

The Global life/health underwriting results for the first three months of 2001 were poor. The higher underwriting loss in first quarter 2001 was primarily due to the U.S. health operations and the global life business. The growing Medicare supplement business and increased mortality in the life business contributed to the higher losses in the first quarter of 2001. The Medicare supplement business normally generates losses in the first part of the calendar year as insureds recover the annual Medicare deductibles covered under the policies. This business is expected to improve over the remainder of the year. Partially offsetting the first quarter losses in 2001 were underwriting profits in the international health segment.

Berkshire Hathaway Reinsurance Group

The Berkshire Hathaway Reinsurance Group ("BHRG") underwrites principally excess-of-loss reinsurance coverages for insurers and reinsurers around the world. BHRG is believed to be one of the leaders in providing catastrophe excess-of-loss reinsurance. In addition, BHRG has generated significant premium volume from a few very sizable retroactive reinsurance contracts in recent years.

Premiums earned during the first quarter of 2001 were essentially level with premiums earned in the first quarter of 2000, reflecting a decline in premiums earned from catastrophe contracts, offset by an increase in premiums earned from non-catastrophe business.

Underwriting results of BHRG include significant charges related to the systematic amortization of deferred charges established in prior years under retroactive reinsurance policies as well as accretion of discounted structured settlement liabilities. For the first quarter, underwriting losses related to these activities were $98 million in 2001 and $41 million in 2000. Premiums for these policies are often established using time-value-of-money concepts because of the expectation that the related claims will be paid over lengthy time periods. Deferred charges and reserve discounts represent the excess of expected losses over the premiums earned and are charged to losses incurred over the expected claim settlement periods. The increase in amortization charges in 2001 reflects the significant amounts of new retroactive policies entered into during 2000. Unamortized charges as of March 31, 2001 were approximately $2.5 billion. Amortization charges over the remainder of 2001 are expected to exceed charges incurred in corresponding 2000 periods by a considerable margin.

During the first quarter, the catastrophe reinsurance business generated an underwriting gain of $51 million in 2001 and $23 million in 2000. Underwriting results for 2001 reflect lower catastrophe losses and underwriting expenses. Although BHRG has incurred relatively low catastrophe losses in recent years, results of this business are still subject to considerable volatility, depending on the timing and magnitude of covered catastrophic events.

Other non-catastrophe reinsurance business generated a first quarter underwriting loss of $31 million in 2001 compared to an underwriting gain of $50 million in 2000. In 2001, underwriting results include about $18 million of unrealized foreign currency charges related to converting certain foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities into U.S. dollars for financial reporting purposes. The underwriting gain in the first quarter of 2000 was largely attributed to gains realized upon the commutation of certain contracts.

Berkshire Hathaway Direct Insurance

Premiums earned by Berkshire's numerous other direct insurance businesses increased $38 million (56%) over amounts earned in the first quarter of 2000. Essentially all of the increase in comparative first quarter premiums earned was attributed to the inclusion of U.S. Investment Corporation and its insurance affiliates ("USIC"), which was acquired by Berkshire in August 2000. Underwriting gains generated in 2001 by these businesses primarily related to small underwriting gains at USIC, National Indemnity and Kansas Bankers.

Insurance Segments - Investment Income

After-tax net investment income produced by Berkshire's insurance and reinsurance businesses for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000 is summarized in the table below. Dollars are in millions.

	2001	2000
Net investment income before income taxes and minority interests	$686	$651
Income taxes and minority interests	211	199
Net investment income	$475	$452

Pre-tax net investment income of Berkshire's insurance businesses for the first quarter of 2001 increased to $686 million in 2001 from $651 million in 2000. Invested assets of insurance subsidiaries declined by about $9 billion during the first quarter of 2001 to about $67.5 billion as of March 31, 2001. The decline was essentially attributed to the payment of cash dividends totaling $4 billion to Berkshire during the first quarter as well as a decline in the market values of certain significant equity investments.

Nevertheless, Berkshire's insurance businesses continue to maintain significant levels of investments that are derived from shareholder capital as well as large amounts of float. Float is an estimate of the net funds available for investment that are ultimately payable to policyholders. Total policyholder float was approximately $29.2 billion at March 31, 2001 and $27.9 billion at December 31, 2000. The increase in float during the first quarter of 2001 was primarily generated by General Re and BHRG.

Non-Insurance Business Segments

Results of operations of Berkshire's diverse non-insurance business segments for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000 are shown in the following table. Dollar amounts are in millions.

	2001		2000	
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Revenues	$3,445	100.0	$1,884	100.0
Costs and expenses	3,031	88.0	1,468	77.9
Earnings before income taxes and minority interest	414	12.0	416	22.1
Applicable income taxes and minority interest	159	4.6	152	8.1
Net earnings	$ 255	7.4	$ 264	14.0

Berkshire's numerous and diverse non-insurance businesses grew significantly through the acquisition of several businesses in 2000 and 2001. As a result, there are two new significant non-insurance business segments beginning in the first quarter of 2001. One new business segment is Shaw Industries ("Shaw"), which was acquired by Berkshire on January 8, 2001. In addition; the building products business segment consists of three recently acquired businesses (Johns Manville, acquired February 27, 2001, Benjamin Moore, acquired in December 2000 and Acme Building Brands, acquired in August 2000). Berkshire also acquired Ben Bridge Jeweler in July 2000, which is included as part of Berkshire's retailing businesses. Other significant businesses acquired in 2000 were CORT Business Services (February 2000) and Justin Brands (August 2000). Additional information regarding each of these acquisitions is contained in Note 2 of the accompanying interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

Revenues for the first quarter from these numerous and diverse businesses totaled $3,445 million in 2001, an increase of $1,561 million (82.9%) over the first quarter of 2000. The aforementioned new businesses accounted for all of the net increase in comparative first quarter revenues. In addition, first quarter 2001 revenues of the flight services businesses increased $139 million (27.4%) over 2000, primarily attributed to increased product sales and increased flight operations income. Offsetting the increase in flight services revenues was a decline in income from finance and financial product businesses, as well as comparative revenue declines in most of the other manufacturing and retail businesses.

Aggregate pre-tax earnings of non-insurance operations in the first quarter of 2001 were $414 million, essentially unchanged from the first quarter of 2000. Pre-tax earnings of Shaw and the building products businesses totaled $103 million in the first quarter of 2001, which were more than offset by lower earnings from finance and financial products businesses. Finance and financial products businesses generated net pre-tax earnings in the first quarter of 2001 of $171 million compared to $282 million in the first quarter of 2000. Results for the first quarter of 2000 included unrealized gains on a large portfolio of investment securities classified as trading for financial reporting purposes. Accordingly, the unrealized gains were included in income. Due to the nature of securities markets and depending upon the size of proprietary investment strategies being employed, periodic earnings of the finance and financial products businesses can be volatile.

Management's Discussion (Continued)

***Non-Insurance Business Segments* (Continued)**

Pre-tax earnings of the flight services businesses in the first quarter of 2001 declined by $9 million from 2000. Operating results reflect higher personnel costs and other costs incurred to generate additional growth of these businesses. First quarter 2001 earnings from other non-insurance businesses, excluding newly-acquired businesses, generally declined from amounts earned in 2000. Berkshire believes that its retailing and manufacturing businesses, as a whole, were adversely affected in 2001 by the general slowing of the economy and higher energy costs in the U.S.

Goodwill amortization and other purchase-accounting adjustments

Goodwill amortization and other purchase-accounting adjustments reflect the after-tax effect on net earnings with respect to the amortization of goodwill of acquired businesses and the amortization of fair value adjustments to certain assets and liabilities which were recorded at the business acquisition dates.

Other purchase-accounting adjustments consist primarily of the amortization of the excess of market value over historical cost of fixed maturity investments that existed as of the date of certain business acquisitions, primarily General Re. Such excess is included in Berkshire's cost of the investments and is being amortized over the remaining lives of the investments. The unamortized excess remaining in the cost of fixed maturity investments totaled $652 million at March 31, 2001.

Realized Investment Gain/Loss

Realized investment gain/loss has been a recurring element in Berkshire's net earnings for many years. Such amounts — recorded (1) when investments are sold; (2) other-than-temporarily impaired; and (3) in certain situations, as provided under GAAP, when investments are marked-to-market with a corresponding gain or loss included in earnings — may fluctuate significantly from period to period, resulting in a meaningful effect on reported net earnings. The Consolidated Statements of Earnings include after-tax realized investment gains of $144 million and $453 million for the first quarter of 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Financial Condition

Berkshire's balance sheet continues to reflect significant liquidity and a strong capital base. Shareholders' equity at March 31, 2001, was $58.4 billion. Consolidated cash and invested assets, excluding assets of finance and financial products businesses totaled approximately $68.0 billion at March 31, 2001. Berkshire has deployed approximately $3.8 billion in cash for business acquisitions in the first quarter of 2001. Cash utilized in these acquisitions was generated internally.

The net amount of borrowings under investment agreements and other debt increased approximately $1.4 billion during the first quarter of 2001. The increase was primarily due to the inclusion of debt of Shaw and Johns Manville assumed in connection with their acquisitions, partially offset by a decline in corporate debt.

Forward-Looking Statements

Investors are cautioned that certain statements contained in this document as well as some statements in periodic press releases and some oral statements of Berkshire officials during presentations about Berkshire, are "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "Act"). Forward-looking statements include statements which are predictive in nature, which depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, which include words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "estimates", or similar expressions. In addition, any statements concerning future financial performance (including future revenues, earnings or growth rates), ongoing business strategies or prospects, and possible future Berkshire actions, which may be provided by management are also forward-looking statements as defined by the Act. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and projections about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and assumptions about Berkshire, economic and market factors and the industries in which Berkshire does business, among other things. These statements are not guaranties of future performance and Berkshire has no specific intention to update these statements.

Actual events and results may differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in forward-looking statements due to a number of factors. The principal important risk factors that could cause Berkshire's actual performance and future events and actions to differ materially from such forward-looking statements, include, but are not limited to, changes in market prices of Berkshire's significant equity investees, the occurrence of one or more catastrophic events, such as an earthquake or hurricane that causes losses insured by Berkshire's insurance subsidiaries, changes in insurance laws or regulations, changes in Federal income tax laws, and changes in general economic and market factors that affect the prices of securities or the industries in which Berkshire and its affiliates do business, especially those affecting the property and casualty insurance industry.